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MANILA CIGARS,  
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
AND  
MANUFACTURERSOF  
AERATED WATERS.  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,  
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1842.THE SHANGHAI PHARMACY,  
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14, ESCOLTA, MANILA.

THE CANTON DISPENSARY, CANTON.

THE DISPENSARY, FOCHOW.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the Manager, *Hongkong Telegraph*, and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters to be sent to "The Editor" and not to individual members of the staff.

Communications intended for publication must be accompanied by the name and address of the writers, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

Whilst the columns of the *Hongkong Telegraph* will always be open for the fair discussion by correspondents of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

## TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in that day's issue not later than THREE O'CLOCK—so as not to retard the early publication of the paper.

## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Arrangements have been made to publish *The Hongkong Telegraph* daily at 4 P.M. Subscribers in the central districts who do not receive their copies before FIVE O'CLOCK will oblige by at once communicating with the Manager.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1883.

## SPORTING GOSSIP.

A considerable amount of interest has been infused into the morning proceedings at the race-course during the past week, the majority of the subscription griffins in training having been put through their paces over various distances. The results of these preliminary trials have clearly enough indicated that, although there are undoubtedly several fair class ponies in the mob, the vast majority of this season's "Hongkong griffins" are very little, if any, better than those sent down in previous years. It is, of course, just possible that change of climate, or other causes, may have so affected many of these griffins as to cause entire loss of form and galloping ability; but, be that as it may, it is positively certain that at least two dozen of the 35 animals sent down would fall to cover the six furlongs in 1.50, much less in 1.42, which was said to be the test accomplished by each one prior to leaving Shanghai. Three quarters of a mile in 1 minute and 42 seconds, with a feather weight up, is not a wonderful performance, nothing that would induce the owner of an animal capable of doing this feat to believe he had got a Strathavon or Black Sath in the rough, yet with one single exception, of which more anon, all the griffins that have been galloped and ridden clean out, have been many seconds over the stipulated time. It would be good business betting against about a dozen of the griffins that could be picked out, covering the Valley Stakes distance inside two minutes.

It does not necessarily follow, in the face of these facts, that the subscription griffin races at our approaching meeting will fall to produce good sport. As a matter of opinion, I think we shall have splendid racing, as from ten to a dozen of the better class animals will probably be found so evenly matched that it will be no easy task to pick the winners, and exciting finishes may confidently be looked for. Even the worst of these griffins possess fairly good looks, and, so far as shape goes, ought to be able to gallop, and it may be that after a course of training they will develop racing merits at present hidden and unsuspected. I am sure I hope so, as from all I can gather, the gentleman who selected the ponies in Shanghai spared neither time nor expense in getting the best cattle available; and it would doubtless afford him an immense amount of satisfaction if they equalled anticipations. That several of the best of the mob will display racing merit of a fairly high class, I have little doubt; in fact, it is quite within the range of possibility that one of the Major's griffins may upset all our preconceived notions by cantering away with the Hongkong Derby.

The best performance amongst the griffins so far, according to the time test, was accomplished last Wednesday morning by Mr. Mody's chestnut, a very handsome animal that bids fair to hold a prominent position in whatever speculation may take place on the Valley Stakes and German Cup. In company with Mr. Paul's brown, Mr. Theo's bay, and a spotted stable companion, Mr. Mody's slashing chestnut, with "Horse" in the saddle, was sent round more than once round on the training track, and according to one "clocker" covered the distance in 1.57. From the six furlong starting post, the

"quarters" were made in 34.35, and 36 seconds respectively, or 1.45 for the last three quarters. The bay was beaten off, the spotted one was some three lengths away, and the chestnut and brown passed the winning post neck and neck, but with this difference, that "Horse" was sitting as still as a mouse on Mr. Mody's pony, whilst "Monkey" had ridden Mr. Paul's representative from start to finish. There can be little doubt that the chestnut had a good deal the best of the weights, and although he was only cantering at the finish, it seemed to me that "Horse" was doing his utmost to keep on terms with the brown on ascending the Black Rock hill. However, it was certainly a good performance for Mr. Mody's pony, and although I can scarcely go so far as the somewhat sanguine sportsman who has already confidently predicted both the Valley Stakes and German Cup a mere question of health for the "bobbey" chestnut, he must certainly be regarded as a most dangerous candidate for both these events.

Mr. Sisson's dark grey and small but shapely white galloped in company with Mr. Theo's peculiarly marked roan Derby griffin. The dark grey disposed of the white easily enough, but caught a Tartar in the roan, who held him quite safely at the finish. The watch showed for the last three quarters of this gallop, 34.72, and 1.51. Mr. Theo's dark grey subscription griffin, one of the most promising ponies in the entire mob, cantered steadily about seven furlongs, and I shall be greatly surprised if he does not train on into one of the most dangerous candidates for subscription griffin honors in the powerful Bowington stable. Mr. Paul has, in addition to his brown, a big dark chestnut that will be worth looking after, if he only goes on the right way. Although not a beauty to look at, being somewhat angular and leggy, he carries a lot of ground in his stride, and apparently can stay well. This pony is, however, in such wretched condition and looks so "tucked-up" that there will probably be a difficulty in training him.

Mr. Woodin's ponies have lately been in physio; I have had no opportunity of seeing them extended, but one of his three has the gift of going, and will, no doubt, become a leading favorite. Mr. St. Vincent's chestnut has been rattled along in company with Triumph, and certainly moves with great resolution, although I fancy he will be out-classed when it comes to racing. Mr. Bromhead has a rather weedy chestnut, with a white blaze on his face, that showed his heels in a rough gallop last Saturday to several highly thought-of candidates, but the same owner's grey or white, peculiarly marked on the neck, is a much better animal, and to my way of thinking—the most resolute galloper of the whole mob. Mr. Gordon's team have been confined to quiet work since the break-down of the white, but no doubt they will be sent along in the course of a few days. Mr. Stiebel has thrown up his little chestnut, but the muscular grey, which was supposed to be affected with glanders, is all right now, and gallops in brilliant form. Most of the other griffins have been steadily exercised, but with the exception of a sturdy dark grey in the Kerfoot-McOndrill's lot, I have seen nothing likely to create a sensation, although Mr. Morgan's representative is supposed to have once been highly tried, and Mr. Da Silva's candidate is well shaped enough for anything.

The only old pony that has been galloped is Triumph, and this fine mover, if properly managed, will win lots of races for Mr. St. Vincent. Last year's Derby winner, Ambassador, was on the course this morning, and although his coat stared ominously and the pony altogether presented a rather mean appearance, he moved over the ground as freely as of old. The two Derby griffins in Mr. St. Vincent's team are fairly good looking and gallop in taking style; but I shall be surprised if either of them develops into another Triumph or Ambassador. The chestnut Wild Rose has not been extended as yet; but he is certainly not much to look at. Mr. Paul's old champions Rose, Sunlight and Montezuma are evidently much better, both in appearance and style of going, than they were last season, and they have only to keep in their present health to win several races. Homplie I have always had a sneaking regard for; but I think both Reefers and Newman greatly over-rated animals, although it cannot be denied that these two chestnuts have amply proved themselves to be thorough stayers.

Mr. Paul holds a strong griffin hand for the Derby, but it will be time enough to deal with these gentry after they have been "powdered." Piccadilly, the winner of last year's St. Leger, lately purchased by our local levian for \$1,500 and contingencies, arrived from Shanghai on Sunday last. He is an exceedingly racing-like pony, well put together, and very muscular all over his shapely frame. At exercise these last few days, Piccadilly has moved rather queerly, but I suppose it may safely be put down to a slight stiffness, contracted on his passage from Shanghai.

The slight rainfall we had on Christmas morning has put the training course in capital order. The plan lately adopted by the C. C. of laying a top-dressing over the beaten track in the centre is a capital one, and should effectively prevent casualties to the ponies in training. To-morrow there will be some interesting "powing," and no doubt a considerable number of spectators will be present to witness proceedings.

AN OLD SPORTSMAN.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1883.

## TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 26th December.  
THE WAR IN THE SUDAN.  
Latest advices from Egypt state that the first division of Suakin (on the Red Sea Coast), which was found necessary, owing to the town being threatened by the Mahdi, has been completed.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A REOULAGE Lodge of Zealand No. 325, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 5.30 for 6 o'clock precisely.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Swatow to the *Amoy Gazette* on the 21st inst:—"By the Steamship Douglas Mr. M. F. A. Fraser has arrived, and will relieve Mr. G. Brown, of the British Consulate, who goes home on leave. Mr. Consul Gregory is expected shortly. The Chinese report that 6 French men-of-war are about to attack Canton. This news appeared in the native newspaper to-day."

WONG ASAM, a Celestial of no settled occupation, but a snapper-up of other people's belongings, had six months steady work generously given him by Mr. Wodehouse to-day, as a reward for his having "annexed" a companion's blanket on board the steamship *Orion* this morning. Wong's plea that he went on board to look for his brother, and was perfectly innocent of any felonious intent, availed him not, as he was caught in flagrante delicto.

THREE ricksha coolies were fined a dollar each at the Police Court this morning for being of a numerous party of wheelbarrow men who, on the 20th instant, at 2.30 in the afternoon, did, in front of the "Sailors' Rest," in Queen's Road, rush their two-wheelers about at a gressed-lighting pace from one side of the road to the other, to the imminent danger of the limbs of pedestrians and people travelling in traps, &c. in that direction. The coolies' conduct was so boisterous that we can come to no other conclusion than that the licensed street obstructionists had been indulging heavily in Celestial freewheeling.

The Legislative Council met this afternoon for the despatch of business. Present:—H.E. the Governor, Sir George Ferguson Bowen, Chairman; Sir George Philipps, Chief Justice; Hon. W. H. Marsh, Colonial Secretary; Hon. E. L. O'Malley, Attorney General; Hon. A. Lister, Colonial Treasurer; Hon. P. Byrie, F.B. Johnson, J. M. Price, and Dr. Stewart, unofficial members. The minutes of the proceedings of last Council were read and confirmed. In reply to a remark of Mr. F. B. Johnson as to what passed at the last meeting of Council in reference to all votes of money being submitted to the Council before being sent to the Secretary of State for approval, His Excellency observed that what he said was that he entirely agreed that such a course should be pursued, but that, of course, there might be special cases where it would be necessary to depart from it. Upon the bills for the naturalization of Lal Fong, J. A. Carvalho, Wong Shing, and H. J. Rodriguez coming on for second reading, His Excellency remarked as to the cumbersome system of naturalization in force here. The Attorney-General said it was legal, however. These bills were read a second time and committed. The bill moved by Mr. F. B. Johnson at the last meeting of Council for the construction of piers and wharves in Victoria Harbour was also read a second time, and was being passed through Committee, when our reporter left.

SAYS the *Amoy Gazette* of the 24th instant:—Through the courtesy of the Clerk of the Course of the Amoy Race Club we are indebted for the information that the entries for the forthcoming Race Meeting, on 7th and 8th proximo, are larger than last season, and comprise three Fochow race ponies, also a griffin from that port. The entrance money to the Fund amounts to \$1,200, which, considering that there will be only two days' racing this season, is a matter for congratulation. We also learn that the Parade ground at Emungkang has been secured, through the kind office of H. B. M. Consul, for the two days, and, if necessary, also for an off-day.

The entries for the forthcoming Races having closed, we are now able to give our readers some idea of the prospects of sport. The Amoy Stakes (a forced entry) shows 23 ponies, being one more than last year; and the Coast Cup and Consolation Stakes have secured 21 entries each. 11 ponies are down for the Challenge Cup, and 13 for the Ladies' Purse, and the short and long races have all filled well. The small number of Griffins (5) will no doubt tend to lessen somewhat the interest of the Meeting, but there seems to be every prospect of large fields; and keen racing in the open events, and we must congratulate the Stewards on the good entries they have secured for their excellent programme. We understand that there will be an off-day on Wednesday the 9th January.

The *Daily Press* is altogether wrong in its statements about the steamship *Albay*. Says our contemporary in this morning's issue:—She has been running from Hongkong to various ports on the coast for many years, formerly under the name of the *Lemon*, and she has a history for she went to the bottom in this harbour alongside the wharf during the memorable typhoon of the 24th September, 1874. She was successfully raised on that occasion, and, having been thoroughly repaired and re-named, she resumed her place on the list, which she has filled ever since. The morning paper ought to know better than to write such nonsense as this. The *Albay* was never known as the *Lemon*, nor was the *Lemon* ever known as the *Albay*. They were in fact, two separate and distinct vessels. Both the *Albay* and *Lemon* came to grief in the big typhoon of 1874, almost alongside of each other. Somewhere about 1876 or 1877 the *Lemon* was re-named the *Tai-woan*, and was afterwards lost on the coast. The *Albay*, which had been for years employed in the Manila trade, was purchased some five or six years ago by Messrs. Douglas Laiprak & Co., and, after being repaired by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, was added to the well-known coasting fleet of that firm, a service for which she was admirably adapted by her once sea-going qualities. As will be seen from a report in another place, there is too much reason to fear that the *Albay* will become a total wreck.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt from Messrs. Turner & Co., the local agents, of the 1884 almanac issued by the Northern Assurance Company, whose head-quarters are in London and Aberdeen. The day, date and month are shown by circular indicators, which arrangement renders the almanac a very convenient one for office use.

Mr. C. Ross, called in the House of Commons the father of reporters, first entered the gallery on Jan. 30, 1820. In spite of his sixty-three years' service, he carries himself well to-day as a conspicuous and venerable figure, midway in the line of reporters who note down and to a great extent manufacture the uttered wisdom of the Legislature, and he even still retains what is said to have been at one time the only voice in England capable of singing Moore's melodies with sympathetic expression.

EVERY 821 individuals in England and Wales have a policeman to look after them. From returns just published the total number of the "criminal classes" still at large and not yet in jail was last year 39,000, while the number of policemen in England and Wales, including over 12,000 for the metropolis alone, was a trifle over 33,000 men. Thus there seems to be a nice balance, there being nearly one policeman for every known law-breaker. The total cost of each policeman is \$490 a year.

THE latest idiosyncrasy in New York is as follows:—"Francesca da Rimini" got "A Friendly Tip" from "The Merry Duchess," who had made "Her Alonement" with considerable "Vim," but the "Princess des Canaries" joined with "Prince Methusalem" in insisting that though the very "Lights of London" might shine upon the matter, "Rip Van Winkle" was as a matter of fact "Nobody's Claim," so that the result was that the "Frolics of a Day" brought about "The Great Divorce Case," and "The Rajah" went to the "Mulligan Guards Ball."

TITZ evidence of Mrs. Fincham, wife of Deputy Assistant Commissary General Fincham, respecting the murderous assault made on her by the house-boy, Wai Acheung, on the morning of the 13th instant, was taken at her residence, No. 5, Richmond Terrace, yesterday, by Mr. H. E. Wodehouse, Police Magistrate, the prisoner being present. As the evidence was substantially the same in the main as the report of the dastardly attack given in our issue of the 14th instant, it would serve no useful end to publish it. The case was further remanded until Wednesday, the 2nd proximo, at 10 a.m.

Two thousand and two hundred trains leave the stations of London every twenty-four hours. Every hour, between 10 in the morning and 11 at night, 1,600 trains start for various termini in London—that is, at the rate of 120 and more every hour, or two a minute all day long, not including the trains on the Metropolitan and Metropolitan district. Of the 2,200 despatched daily, 1,750 serve the suburbs and a suburban region of thirty miles around the city. Fifteen leave for Scotland and Ireland and sixteen for the Continent. Three hundred and twelve trains start from Victoria; 321 from Liverpool street, and 395 from Broad street.

Figaro says the favorite German dish is saucis-senkarotbrisauskrautkranzwurst, which is crowned with a wreath of pickled puddings and hashed meat. Below this cornice of sauerkraut, intermingled with pickled beet root, forms a ring which reposes on a mould of smoked and grilled sausages. The mould itself is surrounded by a kind of embossed ornamentation, consisting of seven kinds of sausages, the names of which are to be found in the famous Kochbuch composed by a professor of chemistry at Heidelberg. A pea pudding, flanked with potato dumplings, forms the base of the dish, over which is thrown a quantity of currant jelly and spirits, which is set on fire.

At an aggregate meeting of the four Radical clubs of the borough of Chelsea, representing upwards of 2,000 members, lately held at the Elvies Club, Mr. Hunt in the chair, after a resolution had been passed urging the Ministry to set aside all measures in favour of the immediate reform of the Government of London, and calling upon the working classes to make this a test question at all elections, the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Lycombe and seconded by Mr. Becaly, was carried:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the present Liberal Government has, upon itself an indelible stigma by its refusal to interfere with the carrying out of the unjust sentences passed by Judge North on Messrs. Foote and Ramsey, despite the protests from eminent religious, scientific, and other sections of the community, and appeals to all Radical and Liberal organizations throughout the country to instruct their members to agitate for the repeal of the Blasphemy Laws." It was also decided that copies of the above resolution should be forwarded to the Prime Minister, and Home Secretary.

THUS the facetious contemporary the *Sportingman*:—"Sigh no more, ladies; men were delivered over" is the strain of an ancient madrigal. The lady to whom the following advertisement is addressed is in therefore the courage—"Marguerite—Marguerite, the words. The reason why I did not come on Wednesday night was this: I went to sleep in the easy chair at 9.30 and slept until five o'clock, Sunday. We would whisper a word in Marguerite's ear. We would tell her to send this gentleman adrift, to cut his acquaintance, whether his name be Faust or Yakob. A man who could sleep from half-past nine on Wednesday until five o'clock on Sunday is not to be trusted. Two sleepers a week like that, and he would have little time to talk to you, Marguerite. He would let you starve, and neglect the children, Marguerite, and altogether be a most undesirable lot, fair maid. Better have a good honest tram-car conductor than such a man; better make a rural parcel post-man a bed of stinging nettles than such a fellow; better have a case, I tell him you do not wish to marry either a nightcap or an easy chair."

FROM the café, concerts, &c., on the Champs-Elysees the city of Paris nets about \$30,000 a year in licenses, &c.

THE American barque *Antioch* and the Spanish steamer *Remus* are booked for the Cosmopolitan and Kowloon Docks respectively to-morrow.

WE note the arrival this morning from Singapore of Professor E. Johnstone, the celebrated Australian geologist, who has lately been touring the southern hemisphere. The Professor's performances in Singapore were very highly spoken of by the *Strait Times*, and the Australian press has also borne testimony to his abilities as an exponent of the mystic art. We shall probably soon have an opportunity of witnessing the Professor in his entertainment of magic, mirth and eloquence.

WHEN the demolition of the Tulleries Palace was undertaken, a special committee was appointed to see that the work was duly carried out as specified in the contract, and to select such fragments of architecture as it should judge worthy of preservation. Now that the ruins of the palace have been entirely cleared away, it remains to arrange and classify the various fragments thus laid apart, and distribute them among the various city and State museums. These last relics of the old abode of French royalty—columns, capitals, cornices, bas reliefs, pedestals, &c., to the amount of at least fifty wagon loads—are now lying in what was formerly the central court of the building.

A QUESTION having been raised as to the ancient measurement of land in a city in the United States, application was recently made to our Board of Trade for information as to when the present foot measure was established in the United States, and whether it may have appreciably differed at any time from the foot measure of Great Britain. The reply of the Board, which contains matter of some historical interest, is published in the appendix to their report on weights and measures lately issued. From this it appears that the standard yard of Henry VIII. still exists, and is considered to be probably identical in length with the old Saxon yard. It is a rod of solid brass, and was in constant use for the verification of other yards until the reign of Queen Elizabeth. After allowing for the estimated wear of the standard, it is found to be of the same length as the present standard yard.

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD's notions of what is wealth and what is poverty are sweetly delicious. He was interviewed in America the other week, and said—"I am a poor man, only a poor school-master, with a small Government appointment, and could never have afforded to undertake the journey in the ordinary way, so I am preparing a few lectures which I hope will be successful and give me the means of retiring, for I should like to write one or two more books. I hear by the bye, that Americans are getting rather tired of lectures. Do you think it is true?" We believe we are right in saying that Mr. Arnold, as a Government School Inspector, enjoys the miserable pittance of 750s. a year. Government too, lately gave him a trifling pension of 250s. a year. Well, perhaps we like Mr. Arnold, would feel a trifle poor on twenty pounds a week, but before deciding we should feel glad if he might be allowed a year to experiment on the 1000s."

THE Select Committee on Harbour Accommodation observe in their report that they "have assumed that three great national harbours of refuge are to be constructed by means of convict labour at places to be carefully selected between Beachy Head and Duncansby Head." They further state that from evidence "that has been 'incidentally' given before them, they are deeply impressed with the increasing importance of such harbours for purposes of national defence, for the extension of sea fisheries, and for the safety and protection of life and property, and they strongly recommend that three such works should without delay be undertaken. A fourth harbour, of a similar character, but of somewhat smaller dimensions, on the north coast of Cornwall, is also suggested, and the Committee observe that the same observations would apply to the need of a similar harbour on the west coast of Ireland."

SAYS the *New York Sun*:—"The probabilities of the outbreak of a war between France and China increase every hour." No one can tell why, what complications an outbreak of this kind may lead to, but two things are certain. One is, that it will greatly inconvenience, if not disturb, the trade of the whole world, and the other is, that the war will place France in a very critical position. Not to speak of the immense expenses and risks connected with such a distant expedition, the chances of intrigues, and possibly even of encroachments, on the part of Germany are alone very serious. As one of the Deputies said during Tuesday's debate in the Chamber, the Cabinet would do much better to look after its eastern frontier than bother about the so-called dignity of France at Tongkin. Should the war with China become serious, France will practically be left at the mercy of Prussia, and the vanity and stupidity of the present leaders of the Republican party may prove more costly to the country than all the corruption and vices of the Empire."

The *Argonaut*, Mastered by the other day, arrived at Hongkong, the different French ambassadors at Tongkin, who were passing the "Circus" (Chinese) under the General commanding the 1st Corps, and the Admiral commanding the fleet, arrived at the same time. The caricature may prove to be a prophecy too, for the Chinese really mean war, and don't lose any time they can spare, while the French, unfortunately, seem to be only half-hearted. The response of China to the ultimatum is formidable, and at the present stage of the proceedings the French are utterly unprepared to meet the Chinese, who will fight at home, can live on nothing, and have all the implements of war ready at hand, while the French have to send every soldier, every bullet, and every cannon from Europe. All this is said, and it is so.

THE latest phase in the "J. M. Price Address" is extraordinarily funny. For the past two days, under the direct auspices of a veteran henchman of the "princely house," not altogether unknown on "the Riato" and at Wong-nei-chong, the famous address has been again carted round the colony, and every possible device used to obtain a long list of bogus subscribers on the cheap. As signing this document is now an economical mode of obtaining notoriety, we should not be surprised, if half the loafers and hangers-on in the city were to append their valuable autographs. We heartily sympathise with Mr. J. M. Price. The honourable the Surveyor-General might well exclaim—"Oh, save me from my friends."

THE immaculate "Gribble" has been fit again. Referring to the break-down of the *Indo-China* Co.'s steamer *Kwonggang*, he says in last night's *Mall*:—"Information of her condition and whereabouts was made known here, and the *Fame* was despatched, late yesterday afternoon, to tow her in, and both vessels arrived at Kowloon Docks about eight o'clock in the evening. 'Gribble' wishes his too credulous readers to believe that the *Fame*, which left here about 6 p.m., steamed 60 miles out to sea, picked up the *Kwonggang*, and towed her into Kowloon Docks, all within the space of two hours. The old tugboat is, as a fine craft, but 34 miles in a heavy sea and with a large steamer in tow half the distance, is rather beyond her steaming powers. If our evening contemporary had taken the trouble to inquire, he could easily have ascertained that the two vessels did not reach Kowloon until between two and three o'clock in the morning. Anything appears to be good enough for the readers of the *China Mail*."

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"You ought to know the following amusing incident connected with the J. M. Price address and testimonial. A short time before the trial a certain 'brumagem' apology for a gentleman made himself rather conspicuous by expressing a hope before a full table at dinner, on more occasions than one, that he would be called on to serve as a special juror, so that he might record a verdict of guilty. This was a good bit of cheek, quite worthy of the person referred to, but he even out-did this piece of artless impudence when the address 'add' subscription list was presented to him. He had no objections to signing the address, but he had objections to backing up his signature with five or ten dollars—and he did not sign. Shortly afterwards Mr. Price's letter declining to accept the subscription was published in the local papers, and to behold, this feeble imitation of a man and a gentleman immediately rushed away, obtained the list from the body who has been running it, and wrote his name in large letters, and it was published in the mail supplement of the *Daily Press* last Tuesday. Now, Sir, what is the exact value of such a person's signature on an address which is supposed to represent, to some extent at least, the honor and intelligence of the colony? We are obliged to our correspondent for his communication, but prefer leaving to Mr. Price the pleasing duty of ascertaining the exact value of this person's moral support. (We can only exclaim, as did Mr. J. J. Francis Roman (friend, Cataline, Olenora) O'mores."

AN HAWKER named Li Ahn and a trainee found at Moat Ahn were the storm petrels of the 20th instant, for some daring street robberies which entitle them to a small niche in the temple of "amazing" fame. The worthy pair, supported by two confederates, intrusted business by the perpetrating, snatching 10 cent pieces and a dollar note as an unemployed "pantry boy" was in the act of filling up the subsidiary in the paper money. They next turned their attention to an unemployed cook, who was carrying a blanket under his arm, and making anything grab at the side, the hawker appropriated the article. The culinary art, not quite so relaxing the joke of having his "house" walked off with in so unceremonious a manner, made a return grab at his property, now in the possession of the hawker, when one of the "amazing" party snatched him on both hands with a sword. The hawker's sword should be retained, and secured with one of these invisible weapons. Having secured the double-edged sword, the lot boiled down in quick time. The pursuit of the hawker was so hot that he was fain to drop the blanket, sticking, however, to the subsidiary coinage and the dollar note. The hawker's sword, and another with, both armed with sword, he devoted to prevent the pursuit. A Supreme Court judge named Kwong Ahn, who serves to have his wages increased, hearing the Celestial cry of "robbery" joined the pursuit, and made known the lot for the "amazing" party to release him from his sword. Finding up also was a Chinese, who was carrying the Chinese sword, and was in the act of snatching the hawker's sword, when the hawker's sword, stopped and arrested the hawker, upon which the hawker's sword, who had not been taken, tried to rescue his "confederate," and threatened the hawker with his sword. The other thieves, who were armed with iron truncheons, got away. The foregoing facts having been established, the attention of Messrs. Woodhouse and Thomson, this morning at the Police Court, they were asked to award a year's hard labor to the hawker, and a year's hard labor to the trainee.

## STRANDING OF THE "MABEL."

THE *Argonaut*, Mastered by the other day, arrived at Hongkong, the different French ambassadors at Tongkin, who were passing the "Circus" (Chinese) under the General commanding the 1st Corps, and the Admiral commanding the fleet, arrived at the same time. The caricature may prove to be a prophecy too, for the Chinese really mean war, and don't lose any time they can spare, while the French, unfortunately, seem to be only half-hearted. The response of China to the ultimatum is formidable, and at the present stage of the proceedings the French are utterly unprepared to meet the Chinese, who will fight at home, can live on nothing, and have all the implements of war ready at hand, while the French have to send every soldier, every bullet, and every cannon from Europe. All this is said, and it is so.



